



NEWS

R E L E A S E

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HUDGENS: GWINNETT COUNTY AGENT ARRESTED; CHARGED WITH FRAUD

Atlanta – Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens said a Gwinnett County insurance agent was arrested this morning and charged with multiple counts of fraud.

Arrested was John Paul Kill, 63, who owns the Appeal Insurance Agency, located at 5548 Naylor Court, Norcross, Ga. Kill is charged with 10 counts of insurance fraud for selling bogus policies and operating an unlicensed insurance company. He surrendered to authorities at his Norcross home and was booked into the Gwinnett County Jail. No bond has been set.

“There is a serious financial threat to consumers whenever you have a small operation like this, ran out of someone’s home without proper regulatory oversight,” Hudgens said. “Our investigation has turned up more than 750 potential victims of this scam and we expect for additional charges to be filed.”

Hudgens said an investigation by his Fraud Unit revealed that multiple businesses located in Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Tennessee and Vermont are affected by Kill’s fraudulent practices. The businesses targeted by Kill were commercial trucking firms and constructions companies.

Hudgens urges anyone who has obtained a policy from this individual to call their insurance company to confirm coverage is actually in force. If a consumer finds that he or she is not covered, they should call the Insurance Department’s Consumer Services Division at 1-800-656-2298. Calls are taken from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Insurance fraud is a felony with a penalty of two to 10 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000.